4. Grant of financial assistacne for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and modernization of processing units.

5. Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for eliminating pest incubation in the product, especially the mangoes, for gaining access to overseas markets.

6. Grant of Air Freight Subsidy for exports of floricultural items and selected fresh fruits and vegetables and fruits.

7. Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.

8. Setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International Airports for handling export of perishable items such as fresh fruits and vegetables.

9. Providing assistance in development of data base and dissemination of market information.

10. Providing assistance for setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, lack of contamination and ensuring freedom from bacteria and fungi.

Schemes for Scientifically Development of Cash Crops

781. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes under Government to scientifically develop the cash crops in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount allocated, amount actually released and expenditure incurred under the schemes during the last year, State-wise and the amount released so far for the current year; and

(c) the extent of implementation of these schemes for the development of cash crops in the States during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a)

and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of schemes and amount allocated, actually released and expenditure incurred are given in Annexure. (*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 24).

(c) The schemes are being implemented by ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, State Departments of Agriculture and Coffee, Tea and Rubber Boards of the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India. The implementation of these schemes has led to the development of new varieties and production/protection technologies which inturn will improve the productivity and production of cash crops in the country.

Scheme for Fishermen

782. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government and National Co-operative development Corporation (NCDC) have sponsored some schemes for the economic upliftment of the poor fishermen and small fish farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Details of schemes implemented by Government of India and the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) for the economic upliftment of fishermen and fish farmers are given in the statement.

Statement

(a) and (b) Government of India and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) are implementing several schemes which, *inter alia,* help in the economic upliftment of poor fishermen and fish farmers.